USA 91: 12501-04 (1994).) In the present specification, the term "BFP protein" refers to a protein that emits blue fluorescence when excited by ultraviolet-blue light and that, then, does not require an energy source such as a special substrate or ATP. However, such BFP had a problem in that it experienced severe fading as compared to GFP and was difficult to be observed under the microscope or the like. As used herein to designate mutation, the position of the mutation is expressed by a specific amino acid number in the sequence of the above-mentioned wild type; the amino acid prior to its mutation is described preceding the number and the mutated amino acid is to be described following the number.--

C1

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 18, with the following amended paragraph:

--In this invention, a DNA portion encoding GFP of pGFP-Cl (available from Clontech Inc.) was replaced by a DNA of GFP derived from phGFP-S65T (available from Clontech Inc.), which served as a basic plasmid (hereinafter referred to as "phGFP(101)-Cl"). The vector is meant for expression in mammalian cells and its full base sequence including the vector part is known in the art. The corresponding amino acid sequence (SEQ ID No. 14) is set forth below.--

C2

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 13, with the following amended paragraph:

--The site-directed mutation introduction methods are not particularly limited, and for example, the protocol for a Quick Change Kit from Stratagene Inc. was followed. The oligonucleotides shown in Table 2 below (SEQ ID Nos. 2-13, respectively) were used as primers and the plasmid (about 0.03 μg) obtained by subcloning GFP or [BFPcDNA] BFP cDNA into the

C3